



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI
JEFFERSON CITY
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PETER D. KINDER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



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My Fellow Missourians:

It is time to plan now to *Keep The Heat On* this winter.

As Lieutenant Governor I am your official Senior Advocate. I am spreading the word on how you can weather the rising cost of utilities this winter.

Gasoline costs are high, but did you also know that natural gas and propane costs are going up as well? These fuels are not regulated by the State of Missouri. The Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) recently noted the price of natural gas and propane could be as much as 40% more than last winter. This means your heating bill could go up approximately \$40 per month or \$200 for the five-month winter heating season.

There is still time to take control and beat the rising costs. Together we can *Keep The Heat On* this winter by investing in ways that save money and by using better budgeting for the added costs.

The information I attached to this letter will help you get into a better position to weather the added costs when the mercury drops this winter.

Take control this winter and join me as we *Keep The Heat On* for Missouri Seniors. Visit my website at: <http://www.ltgov.mo.gov/> and click on the *Keep The Heat On* link for more information.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Kinder". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Peter D. Kinder

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Q. WHAT IS THE CURRENT PRICE OF NATURAL GAS AND PROPANE?

- A.** Approximately 57 percent (1,261,397) of Missouri households use natural gas to heat their homes. On August 6, 2008, natural gas futures closed at \$8.77 per MMBtu, or 41% higher than last year at this time.

Approximately 13 percent (293,803) of Missouri households heat with propane. The average retail price for residential propane was \$2.36 per gallon on August 4, 2008. Propane is 41% higher than the \$1.67 per gallon price at this time last year.

Q. WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE MY HOME MORE EFFICIENT?

- A.** Upgrading to *Energy Star* appliances, windows and insulation will save money in the future. However, buying *Energy Star* appliances is a long-term investment and may take years to offset the cost of energy you save from the purchase. This winter, you can save money right away by making a simple change and *install a digital programmable thermostat*. Programmable thermostats may save as much as \$150 per year on your heating bills. Installing fluorescent bulbs will also save energy. Another simple energy saver is to install an insulation blanket on your hot water heater.

Visit <http://www.energyhog.org/>; and <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/energy/residential/residential.htm> to learn more ideas to ways to save money on utilities.

KCP&L also has a great website with good ideas on how to save energy, which can be found at: <http://www.kcpl.com/efficiency/hee.html>

Q. DO YOU NEED HELP MAKING YOUR HOME MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT?

- A.** The Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program provides assistance to those who may need help with making their homes more energy efficient. The program supports energy-efficient housing, long-term reduction in utility bills and the comfort and safety of those served. Missouri seniors, physically disadvantaged and families with children are program priorities. Since the program began in 1978, weatherization funds helped to weatherize more than 150,000 Missouri homes. Weatherization assistance is distributed by Community Action Agencies. Visit: <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/energy/weatherization/wxmap.htm> or call (800) 361-4827 or (573) 751-3443 for assistance.

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Kansas City Power and Light has an excellent program for helping you save energy. For more information call (816) 835-7593 or visit:

<http://www.kcpl.com/residential/programs.html> and
<http://www.kcpl.com/residential/homeperf.html>

Agencies to contact for weatherization funding include the following:

City of Kansas City, MO Weatherization Department (serving Jackson, Clay, Platte counties)

City Hall, 4th Fl. West
414 East 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: (816) 513-3025
www.kcmo.org/wx

West Central Missouri Community Action Agency (serving Bates and Cass counties)

106 West Fourth Street
P.O.Box 125
Appleton City, MO 64724
Phone: (660) 476-2185
www.wcmcaa.org/famcomm.htm

Missouri Valley Community Action Agency (serving Chariton, Lafayette, Pettis, Saline counties)

1415 S Odell
Marshall, MO 65340
Phone: (660) 886-7476
www.mvcaa.net

KCP&L Customers may even qualify for a free programmable thermostat using the Energy Optimizer program. For more information call (866) 882-4429 or visit:

<http://www.kcpl.com/residential/acc.html>

Q. DO YOU NEED HELP PAYING YOUR ENERGY BILLS?

- A.** There is help. The Missouri Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has two components: Energy Assistance/Regular Heating (EA) and Energy Crisis Assistance Program (ECIP). EA provides financial assistance to help pay heating bills for Missourians during the months of October, November,

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December, January, February, and March. Eligibility for EA is based on income, family size, available resources and responsibility for payment of home heating costs. Eligibility for EA may also qualify individuals for additional financial assistance through ECIP and/or weatherization services funded by LIHEAP.

FIND OUT MORE AT: <http://www.dss.mo.gov/fsd/liheap.htm> .

LIHEAP assistance is distributed by 19 Community Action Agencies throughout the State. To find the Action Agency that serves your area, go to:

<http://communityaction.org/CAAServiceAreas.htm> or call: (573) 634-2969 for more information.

The Community Action Agency serving the St. Joseph area (Andrew, Buchanan, Clinton or DeKalb counties) is:

Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph
817 Monterey Street
St. Joseph, MO 64503
(816) 233-8281
<http://www.endpov.com/utilityassistance.htm>

The Community Act Agency serving the Kansas City Area is:

Administrative Office/Central Jackson County Outreach
6323 Manchester Avenue
Kansas City, Missouri 64133
(816) 358-6868
<http://www.uscaa.info/>

Outreach offices of the United Services agency in Kansas City are located at the following locations:

West Jackson County Outreach
299 Paseo
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
(816) 923-9400

East Jackson County Outreach
3675 S. Noland Road, Suite 100
Independence, Missouri 64055
(816) 833-4333

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Clay County Outreach/Excelsior Springs
218 South Street
Excelsior Springs, Missouri 64024
(816) 630-0037

Clay County Outreach/Northland
1104 N.E. Vivion Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64118
(816) 459-9615

Platte County Outreach
412 Perry
Tracy, Missouri 64079
(816) 858-5153

Twice-As-Nice Thrift Store
235 Main Street
Platte City, Missouri 64079
(816) 431-3640

The United Way of Kansas City also has a program to assist those in need.
Contact the United Way by dialing 211 or 816-474-5112 or by using the web at:
<http://www.unitedwaygkc.org/>.

Also, KCP&L's Dollar-Aide utility assistance program may be able to help you as well. To find out more about the Dollar-Aide program, call (816) 561-2727 / (877) 962-6222 or visit: <http://www.kcpl.com/residential/custassist.html>